MEDIA RELEASE

Attention: News Director For Immediate Release November 21, 2006

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE DAVID L. HUBER UNITED STATES ATTORNEY Western District of Kentucky

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PHARMACIST PLEADS GUILTY TO CONSPIRACY TO SELL STOLEN PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

- Stolen drugs worth approximately \$59,623.00

David L. Huber, United States Attorney for the Western District of Kentucky, announced today that **CRAIG RANDALL MULLINS**, age 50, of Newport, Tennessee, in Cocke County, **pled guilty** to conspiracy to resell prescription drugs originally purchased by a hospital with the intent to defraud the purchasing public.

The maximum potential penalties are 5 years imprisonment, a \$250,000 fine, and supervised release for a period of 3 years.

Mullins admitted that, between July 2002 and July 2004, he conspired with others to sell, purchase and trade prescription drugs that originally had been purchased by a hospital in Newport, Tennessee. Specifically, **Mullins** admitted that he took pharmaceutical drugs, worth approximately \$59,623.00, from his employer, Baptist Hospital of Cocke County, and sold them to a pharmacist in McLean County, Kentucky. That pharmacist resold the stolen prescription drugs to the public as if they had been properly obtained and dispensed when in fact they had not.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Eric I. Long, and it was investigated by the Food and Drug Administration, Office of Criminal Investigations.

The plea was entered before Joseph H. McKinley, Jr., Judge, United States District Court, Bowling Green, Kentucky.

Mullins is scheduled to be sentenced before Judge McKinley on February 14, 2007, at 10:00 a.m., in Owensboro, Kentucky.

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